

Message Text

SECRET

PAGE 01 ATHENS 07694 291620Z

41

ACTION SS-25

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 SSO-00 NSCE-00 /026 W

----- 060541

O 291506Z JUL 76

FM AMEMBASSY ATHENS

TO SECSTATE WASHDC IMMEDIATE 5825

INFO AMEMBASSY ANKARA IMMEDIATE

S E C R E T ATHENS 7694

EXDIS

EO 11652: GDS

TAGS: PFOR PLOS TU GR

SUBJECT: TURKISH-GREEK EFFORTS TO RESOLVE SEISMIC PROBLEM

REF: A. ATHENS 7692; B. STATE 186265;

C. ATHENS 7601; D. ANKARA 5726; E. ANKARA 5725

1. THIS TELEGRAM CONTAINS THE TEXT OF THE PAPERS CONCERNING THE SISMİK I WHICH I DISCUSSED LAST NIGHT (REFTEL A) WITH PRIME MINISTER CARAMANLIS. (DO NOT REVEAL FOR THE MOMENT THAT WE HAVE THE PRECISE TEXTS.) THE FIRST PAPER, WHICH MOLYVIATIS CHARACTERIZED AS "A NON-PAPER", CONTAINS A BRIEF SUMMARY CHRONOLOGY OF WHAT HAS HAPPENED OVER THE PAST WEEK:

2. BEGIN TEXT OF "NON-PAPER."

"1. "ON JULY 21ST, COSMADOPOULOS CALLED ON CAGLAYANGIL TO PRESENT GREEK VIEWS ON THE SISMİK I AND SEEK INFORMATION ON TURKISH INTENTIONS.

2. "CAGLAYANGIL OFFERED TO MAKE PUBLIC STATEMENTS WHICH WOULD MAKE THE RESEARCH POSSIBLE WITHOUT ANY PREJUDICE TO THE LEGAL POSITIONS OF THE TWO GOVERNMENTS.

3. "TAKING UP CAGLAYANGILS IDEAS COSMADOPOULOS CALLED ON HIM ON THE 23D AND SUGGESTED DRAFT STATEMENT TO BE MADE BY CAGLAYANGIL.

SECRET

SECRET

PAGE 02 ATHENS 07694 291620Z

4. "ON INSTRUCTIONS BY THE TWO GOVERNMENTS, COSMADOPOULOS AND ELEKDAG DREW UP TEXT OF STATEMENT (ATTACHED HERETO), WHICH WAS APPROVED BY CAGLAYANGIL AND SENT TO GREEK GOVERNMENT FOR CONSIDERATION.

5. "CAGLAYANGIL SAID HE AND HIS STAFF WOULD BE AVAILABLE OVER THE WEEKEND TO RECEIVE ANSWER OF GREEK GOVERNMENT.

6. "IN THE AFTERNOON OF 24TH, COSMADOPOULOS ASKED TO BE RECEIVED BY CAGLAYANGIL TO COMMUNICATE GREEK GOVERNMENT ANSWER (ATTACHED). CAGLAYANGIL REFUSED TO SEE HIM AND REFERRED HIM TO ELEKDAG, WHO REJECTED OUT OF HAND GREEK TEXT AND SAID THERE IS COMPLETE DISAGREEMENT AND THE DOORS ARE CLOSED."

3. TEXT DRAWN UP BY COSMADOPOULOS (AD REFERENDUM) AND ELEKDAG (APPROVED BY CAGLAYANGIL), ON JULY 23D. THE GREEK GOVERNMENT HAVING TAKEN INTO CONSIDERATION THE VIEWS EXPRESSED BY YOUR EXCELLENCY WOULD APPRECIATE IT IF A PUBLIC STATEMENT BY THE TURKISH GOVERNMENT PRECEDED THE SHIP'S VOYAGE. BY THIS STATEMENT IT WOULD BE DECLARED:

1. "THE TURKISH GOVERNMENT WOULD PROCEED, THROUGH THE SISMİK I VOYAGE TO PURELY SCIENTIFIC RESEARCH, RELATED TO THE CONTINENTAL SHELF, WHICH WOULD NOT BE AIMED AT THE EXPLOITATION OF THE NATURAL RESOURCES OF THE CONTINENTAL SHELF.

2. "IN VIEW OF THE FACT THAT THE DIFFERENCE OVER THE CONTINENTAL SHELF OF THE AEGEAN HAS NOT YET BEEN SETTLED AND OUR TWO COUNTRIES RESERVE THEIR POSITIONS, THESE RESEARCHES DO NOT PREJUDGE OR CREATE ANY SOVEREIGN OR OTHER RIGHTS OF THE TWO STATES ON THE PARTS OF THE CONTINENTAL SHELF WHERE THE RESEARCH WILL BE CONDUCTED.

3. "IN ORDER NOT TO IMPEDE NAVIGATION IN THE AEGEAN, THE TURKISH GOVERNMENT WOULD ANNOUNCE
SECRET

SECRET

PAGE 03 ATHENS 07694 291620Z

SUCCESSIVELY AND IN ADVANCE THE REGIONS WHERE THE RESEARCH VESSEL WOULD CONDUCT ITS ACTIVITIES.

4. "IN THIS CONTEXT, THE GREEK GOVERNMENT IS IN A POSITION TO ASSURE THAT IT WOULD NOT INTERFERE IN ANY MANNER WITH THE MISSION OF THE SISMİK I.

5. "WE HOPE AT THE SAME TIME THAT THE SISMİK I

WOULD COMPLETE ITS MISSION WITHOUT ANY DEMONSTRATIVE (PROVOCATIVE) MEASURE AND WOULD ENTER THE AEGEAN WITHOUT ANY TURKISH NAVAL ESCORT OR AIRFORCE PROTECTION."

4. TEXT SUGGESTED BY GREEK GOVERNMENT ON JULY 24TH. THE GREEK GOVERNMENT HAVING TAKEN INTO CONSIDERATION THE VIEWS EXPRESSED BY YOUR EXCELLENCY WOULD APPRECIATE IT IF A PUBLIC STATEMENT BY THE TURKISH GOVERNMENT PRECEDED THE SHIP'S VOYAGE. BY THIS STATEMENT IT WOULD BE DECLARED:

1. "THE TURKISH GOVERNMENT WOULD PROCEED, THROUGH THE SISMİK I VOYAGE, TO PURELY SCIENTIFIC RESEARCH RELATED TO THE CONTINENTAL SHELF AND/OR SEISMIC RESEARCH BUT OF A PURELY SCIENTIFIC NATURE WHICH WOULD NOT BE AIMED AT THE EXPLOITATION OF THE NATURAL RESOURCES OF THE CONTINENTAL SHELF.

2. "IN VIEW OF THE FACT THAT THE DIFFERENCE OVER THE CONTINENTAL SHELF OF THE AEGEAN HAS NOT YET BEEN SETTLED AND OUR TWO COUNTRIES RESERVE THEIR POSITIONS, THESE RESEARCHES DO NOT PREJUDGE OR CREATE ANY SOVEREIGN OR OTHER RIGHTS OF THE TWO STATES ON THE PARTS OF THE CONTINENTAL SHELF WHERE THE RESEARCH WILL BE CONDUCTED.

3. "THE TURKISH GOVERNMENT WOULD ANNOUNCE IN ADVANCE IN GENERAL TERMS THE COMPLETE ITINERARY OF THE RESEARCH VESSEL.

4. "IN THIS CONTEXT THE GREEK GOVT WOULD NOT INTERFERE IN ANY MANNER WITH THE MISSION OF THE SISMİK I, BUT WOULD FOLLOW IT DISCRETELY. AT THE
SECRET

SECRET

PAGE 04 ATHENS 07694 291620Z

SAME TIME THE SISMİK I WOULD COMPLETE ITS MISSION WITHOUT ANY TURKISH NAVAL ESCORT OR AIRFORCE PROTECTION."

5. IN DISCUSSING THESE PAPERS FURTHER WITH MOLYVIATIS, HE DREW MY ATTENTION TO ANNOUNCEMENTS APPARENTLY MADE BY THE TURKISH OCEANOGRAPHIC INSTITUTE TO THE EFFECT THAT UNTIL AUG 20 THE SISMİK I WOULD BE SURVEYING AN AREA WEST AND NORTHWEST OF THE DARDANELLES. MOLYVIATIS SAID THAT SUCH RESEARCHES WOULD EVIDENTLY BE IN TURKISH TERRITORIAL WATERS OR ON CONTINENTAL SHELF AREAS NOT BEING ACTIVELY CONTESTED BY GREECE. THEREFORE, HE SAID, WE HAVE "A BREATHING SPACE" IN ORDER TO TRY AND FIND A SOLUTION TO THE PROBLEM.

6. HE SAID THAT THE GREEK GOVT WAS AWARE OF AMB

MACOMBERS MUCH-APPRECIATED EFFORTS IN
ANKARA TO TRY AND HELP FACILITATE THE FINDING OF A
FORMULA TO DEAL WITH THE PROBLEM ALONG THE LINES OF THE
TWO TEXTS SET FORTH ABOVE. MOLYVIATIS SAID THAT THE
TWO SIDES WERE OBVIOUSLY VERY CLOSE AND THAT SUCH
A FORMULA OFFERED A GOOD MEANS -- PERHAPS THE
BEST MEANS -- OF AVERTING A REAL GREEK/TURKISH
CRISIS IN THE AEGEAN. THEREFORE, HE SAID, THE
GREEK GOVT HOPED THAT AMBASSADOR MACOMBER
WOULD BE ASKED TO CONTINUE HIS EFFORTS IN
ANKARA (WHICH I ALSO APPLAUD AND VERY MUCH ENDORSE).
MOLYVIATIS THOUGHT THE NEXT STEP WOULD BE FOR
CAGLAYANGIL OR ELEDDAG TO CALL COSMADOPOULOS BACK IN
AND RESUME THE DIALOGUE ON THE FORMULA THAT WAS
ABRUPTLY TERMINATED BY THE TURKISH SIDE LATE LAST
SATURDAY AFTERNOON.
KUBISCH

SECRET

NNN

Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: Z
Capture Date: 01 JAN 1994
Channel Indicators: n/a
Current Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Concepts: LAW OF THE SEA, TERRITORIAL WATERS, OFFSHORE DRILLING, EXPLORATION, NEGOTIATIONS, SISMIC I, PROGRESS REPORTS, SEISMIC PROSPECTING
Control Number: n/a
Copy: SINGLE
Draft Date: 29 JUL 1976
Decaption Date: 28 MAY 2004
Decaption Note: 25 YEAR REVIEW
Disposition Action: RELEASED
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Authority: coburnhl
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment: 25 YEAR REVIEW
Disposition Date: 28 MAY 2004
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
Document Number: 1976ATHENS07694
Document Source: CORE
Document Unique ID: 00
Drafter: n/a
Enclosure: n/a
Executive Order: GS
Errors: N/A
Film Number: D760293-0516
From: ATHENS
Handling Restrictions: n/a
Image Path:
ISecure: 1
Legacy Key: link1976/newtext/t19760711/aaaaajao.tel
Line Count: 186
Locator: TEXT ON-LINE, ON MICROFILM
Office: ACTION SS
Original Classification: SECRET
Original Handling Restrictions: EXDIS
Original Previous Classification: n/a
Original Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Page Count: 4
Previous Channel Indicators: n/a
Previous Classification: SECRET
Previous Handling Restrictions: EXDIS
Reference: 76 ATHENS 7692, 76 STATE 186265, 76 ATHENS 7601, 76 ANKARA 5726, 76 ANKARA 5725
Review Action: RELEASED, APPROVED
Review Authority: coburnhl
Review Comment: n/a
Review Content Flags:
Review Date: 30 APR 2004
Review Event:
Review Exemptions: n/a
Review History: RELEASED <30 APR 2004 by CollinP0>; APPROVED <18 AUG 2004 by coburnhl>
Review Markings:

Margaret P. Grafeld
Declassified/Released
US Department of State
EO Systematic Review
04 MAY 2006

Review Media Identifier:
Review Referrals: n/a
Review Release Date: n/a
Review Release Event: n/a
Review Transfer Date:
Review Withdrawn Fields: n/a
Secure: OPEN
Status: NATIVE
Subject: TURKISH-GREEK EFFORTS TO RESOLVE SEISMIC PROBLEM
TAGS: PFOR, PLOS, TU, GR
To: STATE
Type: TE
Markings: Margaret P. Grafeld Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 04 MAY 2006